Enhancement of State's share

3325. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Several States including Andhra Pradesh have requested the Centre to enhance the State share to 50 per cent of the divisible pool;

(b) if so, by when it will be given effect to; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider the request, as the present share is much less?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes Sir, several States including the State of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Centre to enhance the share of States in Central taxes and other grants-in-aid as against what has been recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission.

(b) and (c) the Eleventh Finance Commission, keeping in view the holistic assessment of the resources and requirements of the Centre and States, and keeping in view the need for vertical and horizontal equity have made their final recommendations. The Government of India had since accepted the recommendations of the Eleventh finance Commission relating to devolution of Central Taxes and Duties and quantum of grants-in-aid to States.

Payment of deposits to public depositors

3326. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in number of cases Company Law Board has approved the Schemes, Section 58(A) of the Act for payment of deposits to the public depositors;

(b) if so, whether the companies are not paying these deposits to the public as per the approved schemes;

(c) what steps are being taken for speedy action in this regard; and

(d) what penal action is being taken against these companies for default?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) where an instance comes to the notice of the government that a company is not honouring orders of the Company Law Board, prosecutions are filed under the relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 in the Court of competent jurisdiction by the Registrars of Companies against the defaulting companies, except in case of Non-Banking Financial Companies against which action is taken by Reserve Bank of India under Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

Income Tax exemption to authors of regional languages

3327. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the authors of the regional languages get income tax rebate/exemption but the authors of technical subjects (Engineering, Law etc.) do not get this facility;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for this discrimination;

(c) whether government propose to reconsider the policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) No Sir. Section 80RRA provides for a deduction in respect of the professional income from foreign sources, earned in foreign exchange, in the case of authors, etc. which is received from the government of a foreign state or any person not resident in India. The amount of deduction is 30% of such income for assessment year 2003-04 and 15% for assessment year 2004-05. There is no discrimination between such earnings of authors of regional languages and the authors of technical subjects.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.